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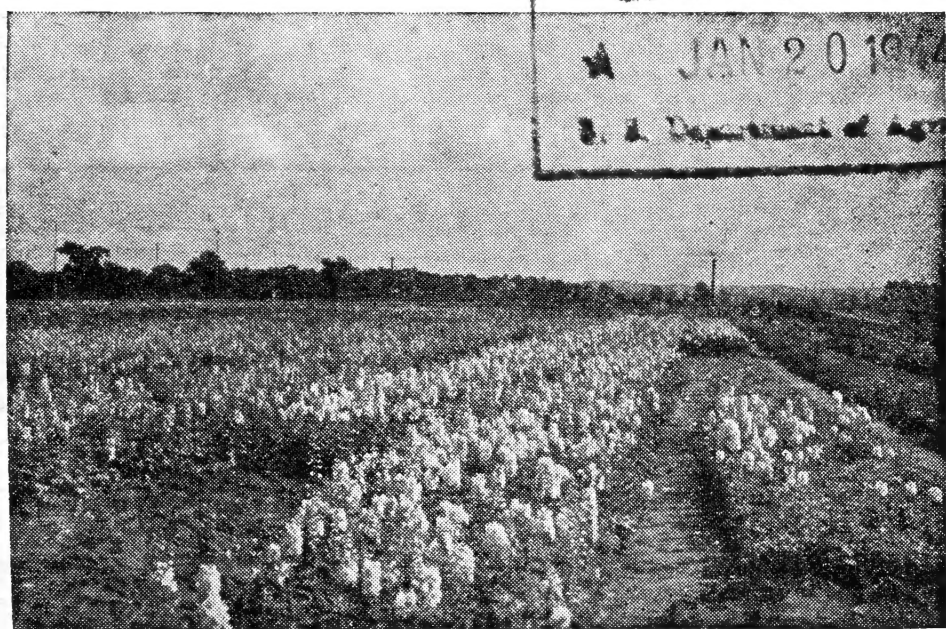


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RICHARDS GARDENS

Better Perennials For 1944



Part Of Our Giant Pacific Hybrid Delphinium. We Have One Million Of These Beautiful Plants Ready to Transplant.



One Year Field Grown Perennials

Field Grown Hardy Phlox

ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID

Richards Gardens

Plainwell, Michigan

Plant Lovers! Your Garden Dollar Buys More Here!



When you stop to consider that you can get a dozen of Richards fine, field grown, 1 yr. perennial plants for about the price you ordinarily expect to pay for three regular field grown plants you get an idea of the tremendous saving you can make by buying our plants.

Remember, these are not flat grown green-house seedlings, but well rooted, healthy, field grown plants.

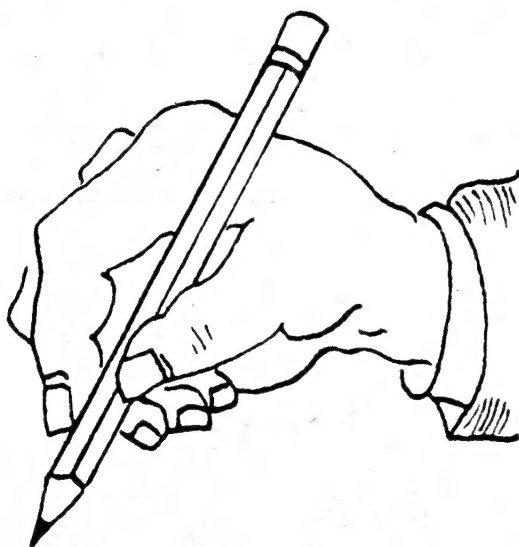
Year after year thousands of satisfied customers order and reorder and tell their friends about the high quality of the plants they have received. Each year we have increased our plant beds and we are now the largest growers of one year Perennial Plants in the World.

PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY

At least one half dozen plants of any one variety must be ordered. Our low prices will not permit handling orders for lesser quantities of one kind.

SEND US YOUR ORDERS EARLY

Make out your order and send it in to us now while you are thinking of it. We will send all plants prepaid at planting time.



FREE PLANTS!

FREE PLANTS!

You may select **ABSOLUTELY FREE** two dozen of any of the plants described in this catalog, retailing at not more than 90c per dozen, with every order of ten dozen or more plants selected from this list. Another reason why your dollar buys more here.

PLEASE NOTE

As this catalog goes to press, (early November), there is No Federal Sales Tax. In case such a tax is levied after this book is printed it will be necessary for all customers to add the amount of same to their orders.

Remember We Guarantee Satisfaction

HEAVY ROOTED, ONE-YEAR FIELD GROWN

Perennial Plants

ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID PRICES

(Blooming seasons, where given, are approximate and depend on Climate, weather conditions, etc.)

VARIETY

Per
Doz.

Half
Doz.

AGROSTEMMA (ROSE CHAMPION)

CORONARIA ATROSANGUINEA90 .55

Through June, July and August these plants are ablaze with deep blood red blooms. Plant six in a group and you will have a real accent spot of garden color.

ALYSSUM (ROCK MADWORT)

ARGENTEUM (GOLD DUST)90 .55

Very free flowering and easy to grow. Like a sunny location and well drained soil. Useful for borders and in rock gardens. Very dense foliage, silvery underneath. Clustered heads of bright yellow blooms practically all summer. Height about 18 inches.

SAXATILE COMPACTUM (BASKET OF GOLD)90 .55

Excellent plant for the rockery or borders. One of the showiest spring flowers with its large clustered blooms of bright yellow. Grows from 10 to 12 inches high. Very hardy.

ANCHUSA (SEA BUGLOSS)

BARRELIERI 1.00 .60

Intense bright blue flowers with white and yellow centers. Starts blooming the middle of May and continues over a long period

ITALICA DROPMORE (ALKANET)90 .55

Grows 5 to 6 feet tall and makes a splendid background plant. Bears loads of true gentian blue flowers in June. Very hardy and sturdy.

MYOSOTIDIFLORA (FORGET-ME-NOT) 1.25 .75

A beautiful plant for shady places. Grows from 1½ to 2 feet tall. Foliage is large and keeps its deep green color all summer. In May and June charming dainty blue blooms are borne in great profusion. Plant is compact in growth and always ornamental.

ANEMONE (PASQUE FLOWER)

PULSATILLA 1.00 .60

Grows only about 10 inches high which makes it ideal for rockery or border. Deepest blue bell shaped blooms come very early in spring.

AQUILEGIA (COLUMBINE)

These are among the most beautiful of hardy plants and the most important parts of the hardy perennial garden. Their presence will lighten up even the most formal planting and their colorful blooms are unexcelled for cutting.

CANADENSIS (AMERICAN WILD COLUMBINE)90 .55

Flowers extremely early in the spring. Rich old rose blended with yellow. Lovely bedding variety. Grows about 20 inches tall.

CRIMSON STAR 1.50 .85

One of the finest and most striking Aquilegas we know of. Bright Crimson with the inside of the bloom a waxy white. Probably the largest flowering of the Columbines. Good for cutting as blooms keep exceptionally long.

ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID PRICES

AQUILEGIA (CONTINUED)

VAREITY

	Per Doz.	Half Doz.
COLORADO RAINBOW MIXTURE .....	.90	.55
These will delight you with their vigorous growing habit and profusion of blooms. Colors cover a wide range with interesting variations.		
DOBBIE'S IMPERIAL HYBRIDS .....	.90	.55
Long spurred variety of unequalled color range and sturdy growth. Abundant bloomer.		
LONG SPURRED BLUE SHADES .....	.90	.55
A heavy blooming type with large flowers and extremely long spurs. Exquisite colorings in all shades of blue. A sure sturdy grower.		
LONG SPURRERD HYBRIDS .....	.90	.55
A superior cutting variety. Also much used for bedding because of the exceptionally wide range of colors which cover most of the mixed shades. Long spurred and very prolific in blooms.		
LONGISSIMA (LONGEST SPURRED) .....	.90	.55
One of the finest Columbines. Flowers are extra large, of finest quality and their clear yellow color lends charm to any planting.		
MRS. NICHOLLS .....	.90	.55
For richest blue color we recommend this variety. Large long spurred blooms with excellent deep color are borne over a long period.		
MRS. SCOTT ELLIOTT'S HYBRIDS .....	.90	.55
Unquestionably the finest color mixture grown. Flowers are large, have long spurs and the colors cover all shades of lavender, purple, red, white, yellow, blue, and pink.		
SILVER QUEEN .....	.90	.55
An excellent variety loved for its silvery white blooms and finely formed florets.		

ARABIS (WHITE ROCK CRESS)

ALPINA .....	.90	.55
A splendid creeping plant which seldom grows over 12 inches high. Bears masses of small white blossoms in early spring. Foilage is very ornamental balance of the year.		

ARTEMISIA (SOUTHERNWOOD)

SILVER KING .....	.90	.55
A striking contrast plant with light silvery gray foliage. Much used in mixed bouquets. May be cut and dried for winter use. We offer well rooted cuttings.		

ASTERS (MICHAELMAS DAISY)

ALPINUS GOLIATH .....	.90	.55
Grows about 15 inches high making it a lovely border plant. Large blooms of soft color are borne profusely from May until late summer.		
ALPINUS MIXED .....	.90	.55
Same description as above but come on Mixed colors of wide range.		
AMELLUS HYBRIDUS .....	.90	.55
Grow about 20 inches high. Excellent as cut flowers. Very free blooming over a long period. Mixed colors will brighten up your garden.		

FALL BLOOMING ASTERS

AMETHYST

Double bluish purple.

BEECHWOOD CHALLENGER

Nearest red hardy aster.

SUNSET GLOW

Glorious sunset pink.

RED ROVER

Deep rosy red blooms with golden centers.

VICTOR

Dwarf, lilac-pink flowers.

35c 3 for \$1.00 Postpaid

VARIETY

Per
Doz.

Half
Doz.

AUBRIETIA (PURPLE ROCK CRESS)

Very desirable for rock gardens or for edging or border work. Their graceful, dwarf habit of growing, their delightful coloring and their evergreen foliage makes them beloved by all gardeners. Start blooming in April and continue until July.

DELTOIDES90 .55

Very showy with its soft lilac colored blooms.

GRAECA90 .55

Excellent bedding sort which bears multitudes of rich violet colored blossoms.

LEICHTLINII90 .55

Large flowering type which produces a surprising quantity of deep rosy purple blooms.

ROSEA GRANDIFLORA90 .55

Dainty, bright pink flowers on six inch stems.

SPECIAL! MONARCH MIXED AUBRIETA

Only by a very fortunate circumstance are we able to offer this superb **NEW ENGLISH STRAIN** to our friends at these low prices. One of the most glorious color mixtures we've ever seen. Almost every conceivable shade of deep red, violet, rose, lavender, mauve, pink, and purple. Make your bed borders a riot of early color with this surprising color mixture. Be sure to order some of these **MONARCH MIXED aubrietias**.

6 for 60c; 12 for \$1.00, postpaid.

BLEEDING HEART (OLD FASHIONED VARIETY)

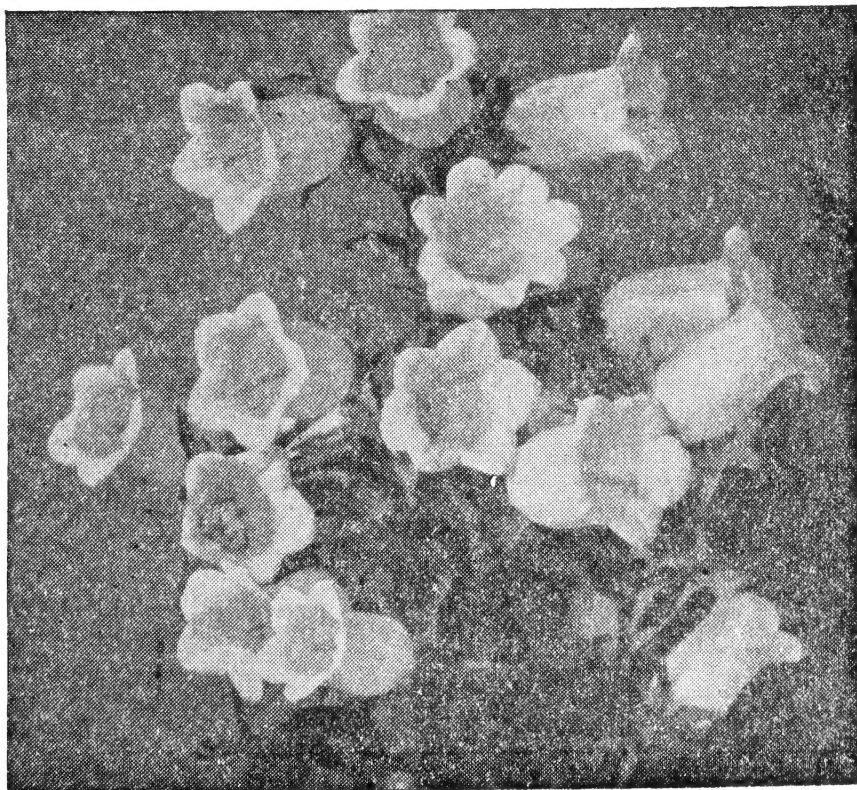
DICENTRA SPECTABILIS, 40c each 3.75 2.00

The old fashioned flower which has been a favorite with all generations since our grandmother's day. Deep pink heart shaped flowers hang from the branches of a sturdy plant. Long blooming period. Ornamental foliage.

CALLIRHOE (POPPY MALLOW)

INVOLUCRATA90 .55

This is an excellent plant for the rock garden or for wall planting, due to its trailing habit of growth. Fine lacy foliage and bears large, saucer-shaped blooms of bright crimson with white spots. Blooms through most of the summer and fall. Grows only 6 in. high.



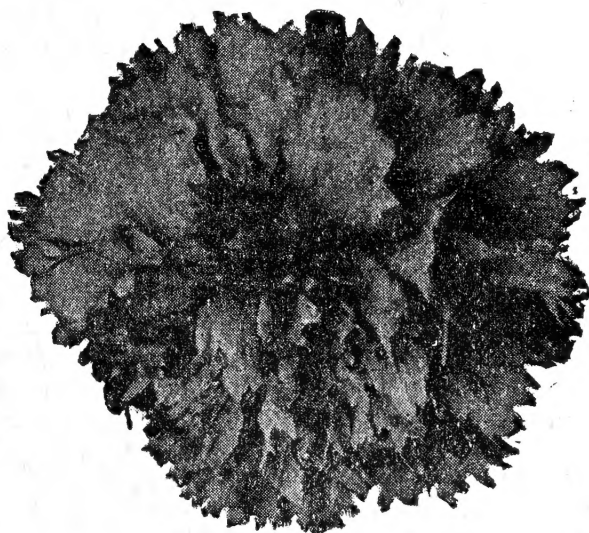
Old Fashioned Canterbury Bells

CAMPANULA (BELLFLOWER)

CALYCANTHEMA, (Cup And Saucer) (Mixed colors) ..	.90	.55
One of the most desirable cut flowers. Very showy in any garden.		
CARPATICA (Dwarf Blue Bells of Scotland) .....	.90	.55
Excellent for rockeries or for edging. Rounded clump of bright green foliage from which stems arise only 6 or 8 inches. Each stem bears a beautiful dark bell-shaped bloom of large size. Very lovely and colorful.		
MEDIUM, (OLD FAVORITE "CANTERBURY BELLS")...	.90	.55
A favorite with all flower lovers. A thrilling sight in June and July when its many branches are loaded with deep bells, the edges of which are softly rolled and fluted. Grows 2 to 3 feet high. We offer five outstanding colors Blue, Pink, Light Blue, White, and Double and Single Prize Mixture. Your choice.		
PERSICIFOLIA, BLUE .....	.90	.55
The true perennial variety. Grows about 2 feet high. Large blue bell shaped blooms make it attractive for contrast either in beds or in bouquets. Long blooming period.		
PERSICIFOLIA, WHITE .....	.90	.55
Same general description as above but bells are a clear pure white.		

HARDY CARNATION (CARNATION GRENADIN)

Almost a necessity in your garden. These hardy outdoor carnations have unlimited uses. For spots of bright color, for cutting, and for fragrance they are unexcelled. Bloom practically all through the summer. Have dwarf habit of growth.



Actual Size of Hardy.
Carnation Blooms

GOLDEN SUN .....	.90	.55
Sweet scented, golden yellow.		
PINK .....	.90	.55
We highly recommend this for clear pink color.		
RED .....	.90	.55
Really brilliant, color and very profuse habit of bloom makes this much desired.		
WHITE .....	.90	.55
To complete this color range in your carnation planting be sure to include this one.		
MIXED .....	.90	.55
Hardy: fragrant; in mixed colors.		

CERASTIUM ("SNOW IN SUMMER")

TOMENTOSUM .....	.90	.55
Light silver colored foliage which, when planted in masses, gives the appearance of patches of snow. Dwarf and creeping, it is splendid for an edging plant or for rockwork planting. Small white flowers appear in succession from spring throughout the summer.		

CHIERANTHUS (SIBERIAN WALLFLOWER)

ALLIONII, GOLDEN BEDDER .....	.90	.55
Bright golden yellow blooms make a rich color display in the rockery or border. Grows only 12 inches high and blooms during May and June.		

ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID PRICES

Hardy Chrysanthemums

HARDY FALL FLOWERING 'MUMS

ALL ARE EARLY BLOOMING

These beautiful hardy chrysanthemums will begin to bloom in early fall and will provide a wealth and richness of color for your gardens after other plants have finished flowering. All are hardy, easy to grow and are of the best varieties offered by any grower. We offer field grown, transplanted plants which have bloomed for us and which we know will please you. Plant some of these this fall.

ALCONQUIN—Very hardy and very early blooming. Rather dwarf growing plant with extra large, brilliant yellow blooms in profusion.

GLORY OF SEVEN OAKS—Medium growing variety which blooms in early September. Lovely clear soft yellow flowers make attractive garden display and are excellent for cutting.

JUDITH ANDERSON —A delightful variety for bedding and cutting. Rather dwarf growing and bears a mass of beautiful buttercup yellow Pompon blooms.

MODEL DE PERFECTION—Pure white as driven snow. The best white pompon we know of. Good grower and extra heavy bloomer.

SNOWCLAD —Good sized double blooms of pure white. Strong stems hold flowers erect and clean.

Your choice from the above 5 varieties
30c each; 4 for \$1.00. postpaid.

NEW 'MUM INTRODUCTIONS

JACKIE

Brand new, being introduced by us this year. Double deep rich wine red. Free bloomer.

CHINA PINK

Another new 'mum being introduced by us this year. A Korean type, tall growing mid-season bloomer. Beautiful pastel pink with bright yellow centers.

RED BRICK TAVERN

Another new 'mum being introduced by us. Korean type with rich brick-bronze color. Very hardy and an early bloomer.

Your choice from the above 3 varieties
35c each; 3 for \$1.00, Postpaid

NAMED VARIETIES OF KOREAN 'MUMS

APOLLO—Deep rich, glowing orange-bronze color. Prolific bloomer and good grower. Strong stems of nice length.

MARS—A beautiful deep blood red. Makes a striking color display in mass plantings. Begins to flower in very early fall and produced heavily. Sturdy and has good stems.

PRIDE OF PLAINWELL—Very choice and offered for the first time this year. One of our own originations. Exquisite color which we describe as buff-rose with light yellow centers. Early in bloom and very prolific.

PSYCHE—Choice variety for bouquets. Bright shell-pink blooms appear freely on strong stems. Begins to bloom in early fall and continues over a long season.

SEQUOIA—A Korean Hybrid type which produces gorgeous double blooms in great abundance. Color is a grand shade of mellow amber with interesting variations.

Your Choice of the Above Five Varieties In
Heavy, Field Grown, Transplanted Plants
30c each; 5 for \$1.25, postpaid.

KOREAN HYBRIDS (EARLY BLOOMING)

....These beautiful 'mums have swept to a high place in the esteem of all gardeners and plant growers. Their clear intense coloring, free blooming habit and the unusual strength of their growth make them essential if you want late summer or fall color in your garden. As far as we know we are the only grower offering them in 1 yr., field grown untransplanted plants. Our low price for these now enables you to have a large planting of them at very little expense. They will come in mixed colors and in single, semi-double and double forms.

6 for 55c; 12 for 90c, postpaid.

Field Grown, Transplanted Plants 20c Ea.; 6 for \$1.10;
12 for only \$2.00, postpaid

CUSHION 'MUMS

In the few years since these remarkable plants were introduced they have swept the country and have risen to the very peak of popularity with all gardeners from coast to coast. Dwarf in height, hardy, colorful and the most prolific bloomers we know of among plants. Begin blooming in July and each plant produces actually hundreds of buds and blooms from then on until the latest fall freezes. Unexcelled for borders or planting in front of shrubs or evergreens. Showy and beautiful in mass plantings. Even one plant alone makes a small flower garden. We offer choice plants which are field grown, transplanted plants.

Three Colors. Your Choice: Pink, White, Bronze.

35c each; 6 for \$2.00, postpaid



2 Yr. Cushion 'Mum Plant. Hundreds Of Blooms Each Year

VARIETY

COREOPSIS (TICKSEED)

Per
Doz.

Half
Doz.

One of the most useful perennials for borders and for cutting. Very easy to grow and produce golden yellow blooms in great profusion throughout the summer.

DOUBLE SUNSET (NEW GOLD) 1.25 .75

A new variety which bears double flowers of good color. Keep exceptionally well when cut.

MAYFIELD GIANTS 1.00 .60

An introduction from Australia. Strong vigorous growth and better stems recommend it. The flowers are somewhat larger and have broader petals than most varieties. Good yellow color.

DELPHINIUM

DELPHINIUM (PERENNIAL LARKSPUR)

One of the best loved and most popular of the world's perennials. New introductions have widened the colors available and have produced better growth and blooms. Our reputation has been founded on the high quality of the delphiniums we grow. These are all heavy 1 yr., field grown plants which will bloom in your plantings next summer.

BELLADONNA, IMPROVED CLIVEDEN BEAUTY90 .55

Beautifully soft light blue in color. A strong grower and heavy bloomer. Superior to the old types of Belladonna; better stems and color.

BELLAMOSUM90 .55

Identical in habit of growth and characteristics with Belladonna described above but has rich, deep blue color so much loved in delphiniums.

CHINESE90 .55

Graceful habit of growth and has finely cut foliage which makes it useful for garden display. Flower spikes are loosely arranged and have a clear deep blue color, keeping well when cut.

CHINESE BLUE MIRROR90 .55

Bright navy blue blooms without spurs. Grows 2 ft. high. One of the best blues.

ELATUM HYBRIDUM INDIGO90 .55

Noted for having a True Blue color. Beautiful in any planting or for cutting. Good grower.

DELPHINIUM (CONTINUED)

VARIETY

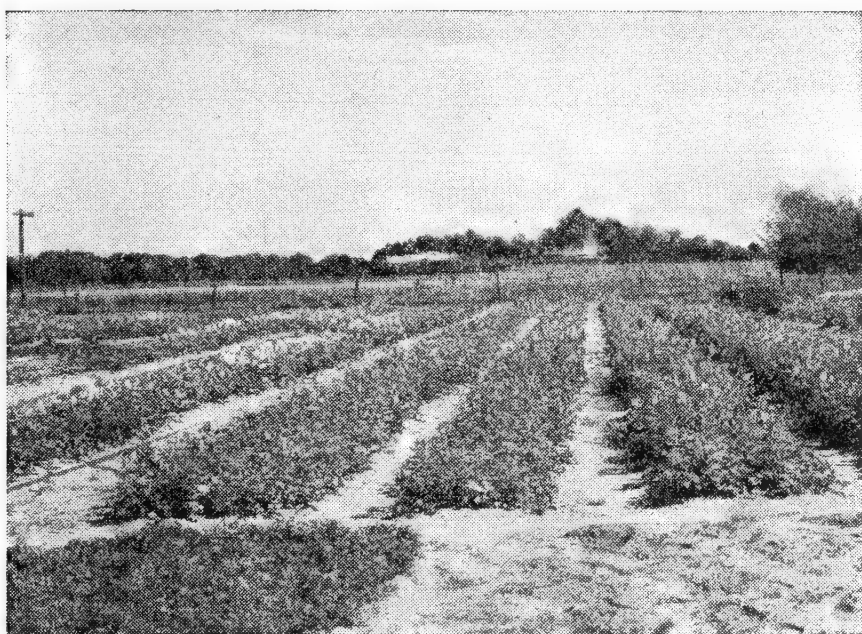
	Per Doz.	Half Doz.
LAMARTINE	90.	.55
One of the finest cutting varieties. Well formed spikes of very deepest blue flowers, each with a distinct white eye. The real Gentian-blue color is rare in flowers and these will delight you.		

GORGEOUSLY COLORED HYBRID DELPHINIUM

Recent introductions in the field of Hybrids have added rare new colors and variations never thought possible in Delphiniums. Individual florets are now double and semi-double in addition to singles. Spikes are almost unbelievably large. Plant some Hybrids this year and you will be thrilled next summer when you see the wonderful blossoms produced.

BLACKMORE & LANGDON HYBRIDS	1.00	.60
Superb color range which includes all shadings from pale blue through delicate lavender and rose with variations. Florets run a good per cent double. Very strong grower with strong stems.		

WREXHAM STRAIN, HOLLYHOCK FLOWERED ,.....	1.00	.60
Extremely long, spire-like spikes thickly studded with individual florets of large size. Color variations include all shades from the deepest blues and purples to the delicate pastels in rose, orchid and pale blue. A wonderful grower and producer with very strong stems.		



Part Of Our Plantings Of Giant Pacific Hybrid Delphinium.

DIANTHUS (PINKS)

This great family is comprised of many varieties and species. They are worthy of a place in every planting and their bright colors and fragrance make them essential in good floral arrangements.

DIANTHUS BARBATUS (SWEET WILLIAM)

An old fashioned flower of which we never tire. Loads of colorful blooms are produced in June. Excellent for color masses in beds or for cutting. Very hardy, easy to grow. We offer the following varieties:

HOMELAND .....	.90	.55
New. Large trusses; deep red with shapely defined white eye.		
MIDCET MIXED .....	.90	.55
Dwarf variety much used for borders. Mixed colors of wide range. Long blooming season.		
NEWPORT PINK .....	.90	.55
Beautiful salmon pink color. Fine for cutting.		
SCARLET BEAUTY .....	.90	.55
Brightest scarlet color for massed display.		
VAUGHAN'S SPECIAL MIXTURE .....	.90	.55
Excellent strain of vigorous growing plants with wide range of brilliant mixed colors.		

EVERBLOOMING HARDY SWEET WILLIAM

LATIFOLIUS ATROCOCCINEUS FLORA PLENA..... .90 .55

A beautiful summer bedding variety as it bears brilliant fiery crimson blooms all through the season. Very hardy and a sturdy grower.

DIANTHUS PLUMARIS (CLOVE PINKS)

New strains of the old fashioned Hardy Pinks have brought this grand flower back into favor. Noted for their exquisite fragrance and free blooming.

CYCLOPS90 .55

Deep rosy crimson hybrids. Fragrant. Red center

DOUBLE MIXED90 .55

Old fashioned hardy pinks in assorted mixed colors. Hardy and thrive most anywhere.

HIGHLAND QUEEN, ROSE HYBRIDS90 .55

One of the best perennial Dianthus offered today. Bright rose colored, fragrant blooms are produced continually from May to November. Ideal for bedding, border or rockery. Red center.

SPRING BEAUTY90 .55

Large sized double blooms are typically carnation in form and fragrance. Wide range of mixed color shades.

DIANTHUS ALLWOODII

ALLWOODII MIXED90 .55

Beautiful Allwoodii Hybrids in mixed colors with contrasting centers. Grow about 18 inches high with good stems. Colorful and fragrant.

DIANTHUS LOVELINESS

A truly lovely dianthus. Lacy, curling petals of exquisite orchid pink color. Very fragrant and one of our finest plants for a low border, edging or rockery.

6 for 60c; 12 for \$1.00, postpaid

DIANTHUS KNAPPI (SPECIES)

KNAPPI 1.00 .60

Bright golden yellow blooms on short stems. Foliage is grassy green. Very dwarf and an outstanding variety for edging or rockery.

DIANTHUS SWEET WIVELSFIELD (SPECIES)

SWEET WIVELSFIELD 90. .55

The true perennial type with single flowers in mixed colors. Fine for mixed bouquets.

DIGITALIS (FOXGLOVE)

GIANT SHIRLEY HYBRIDS90 .55

This elegant strain of an old fashioned flower grows to 7 feet high, ideal for tall colorful backgrounds. The color mixture is superb. We heartily recommend this variety of Foxglove.

EUPHORBIA (FLOWERING SPURGE)

POLYCHROMA90 .55

Rounded lump of beautiful foliage which throws up 12 inch stems each covered with bright yellow blooms during late May and June. Splendid for borders.

ERYNGIUM (SEA HOLLY)

AMETHYSTINUM90 .55

Colorful perennial which reaches height of 3 feet and produces quantities of Amethyst Blue flowers during the summer. Good for cutting.

GAILLARDIA (BLANKET FLOWER)

For general hardiness and the profusion with which they produce their colorful blooms, the Gaillardias are in a class by themselves. Plants require only the very simplest care. Blooms keep extremely long after cutting or will make a bright color display in the perennial border.

BURGUNDY .....	.90	.55
Brilliant, wine-red flowers of large size on strong lengthy stems. Ideal for cutting. Bloom from June until frost. Showy color for the border.		
DAZZLER .....	.90	.55
One of the most brilliant of the family. Large flowering type with blooms of bright, golden yellow, centered by a disc of satiny maroon.		
GOBLIN, DWARF .....	.90	.55
A true dwarf Gaillardia which deserves a place in every garden. Grows 12 to 15 inches high in very compact shape. Foliage practically disappears under the mass of large deep red and gold blooms.		
PORTOLA HYBRIDS .....	.90	.55
Extremely large flowering strain and noted for the wide range of deep colors which vary from reddish brown to deep gold. Makes colorful bouquets.		
TANGERINE	1.00	.60
Particularly showy, large flowering, variety noted for its brilliant tangerine color. For bright masses of color this one is unequalled. Equally good for cutting. Strong, erect stems.		

GYSOPHILA (BABY'S BREATH)

One of the best known perennials and much loved for the delicacy of its blooms. For misty garden beauty or when used in mixed bouquets it has no equal.

PANICULATA .....	.90	.55
Dense, spreading, bushy type which reaches a height of 3 feet. Numberless tiny white blooms completely hide the plant during flowering season. May be cut and dried for winter use. Foliage is fine in texture and ornamental in rockery or border.		
SNOW WHITE, DOUBLE	1.00	.60
Grows only about 2 feet high and produces a mass of small white flowers, mostly double. Much used in the ends of a perennial border for its misty, delicate atmosphere. Good for all bouquet use.		

HELIOPSIS (HARDY ZINNIA)

Valuable for cutting and noted for their hardiness and fine color. Good compact growing habit with strong erect stems. Very free flowering.

LEMOINE'S GIANT .....	.90	.55
Double, golden yellow blooms.		
SCABRA ZINNEAFLORA .....	.90	.55
Large, semi-double, golden yellow blooms. Make a wonderful display of color in the garden or when cut for bouquets. Grows 3 feet tall.		

HELIANTHEMUM (HARDY SUN ROSE)

No plant is more beautiful or colorful for the rock garden, border, or wherever a very low growing plant is desired. Their multitude of brilliant colors and blooms attract attention and add charm wherever used. Glossy green foliage is always attractive and forms background for the flowers.

MUTABILIS, MIXED .....	.90	.55
Beautiful hybrids of rose, white and yellow.		

Charlotte, N. C., April 16, 1943

Thought you might like a report on how well your plants are packed. I was called out of town after ordering. Plants came while I was away. They were shipped March 23 and I arrived home and got them planted March 30. In the mean time they hadn't been unwrapped nor rec'd any attention. At present every one is living without any unusual pampering.

Thanks for your most generous count!—Mrs. L. Z. Hicks.

HIBISCUS (GIANT MALLOW)

Unequalled for tall backgrounds or for specimen plants. Their large leaved, ornamental, foliage is fine in the border. Tall erect canes bear large, bell shaped blooms often measuring 7 or 8 inches across. Very hardy and easily grown. Grow 4 ft. tall.

MALLOW MARVEL, JUMBO RED, .....	.90	.55
MALLOW MARVEL PINK .....	.90	.55

HOLLYHOCKS

No flower has more sentiment or is more closely associated with our memories than the hollyhock. We have selected the outstanding varieties listed below as being the best for our customers and we know you will be pleased when they bloom.

IMPERATOR DOUBLE MIXED .....	.90	.55
Large Begonia-like flowers on tall, strong stalks. Unusual color variations including lavender shades as well as pinks, salmons, reds, etc. Fringed outer petals with double rosette centers.		
NEWPORT PINK .....	.90	.55
Rich, shimmering pink blooms on tall stems.		
ORANGE PRINCE .....	.90	.55
Giant double with bright orange throat.		
SCARLET BEAUTY .....	.90	.55
Brilliant scarlet color for bold backgrounds.		

IBERIS (HARDY CANDYTUFT)

These delightful plants have a very distinct place in the rockery or whatever a dwarf plant with evergreen foliage is needed. Very hardy and rarely exceed 18 inches in height. May be used for dwarf flowering hedge. Dense heads of blooms in early spring.

CIBALTARICA .....	.90	.55
Dwarf, with evergreen foliage. Masses of lavender bloom in early spring. Splendid for edging.		
SEMPERVIRENS .....	.90	.55
Same habits but slightly more dwarf, with white blooms.		

IRIS KAEMPFERI (ORIENTAL IRIS)

Immense flat blooms on tall stems. Noted for the variety of their colorings which range from delicate pastels to deepest purple and blue. Long narrow leaves make ornamental clumps of foliage. Plant some of these beautiful Iris in your borders. The size and quality of their blooms will please the most exacting.

KAEMPFERI, MIXED .....	.90	.55
A beautiful assortment of colors. Tall growing.		

IRIS SIBERICA (SIBERIAN IRIS)

Somewhat like Kaempferi in habit of growth and appearance of blooms but each plant throws up from 15 to 30 stems, each topped by a magnificent bloom. Grow from 3 to 4 feet tall and are fine for background in the perennial border.

SIBERICA, MIXED, .....	.90	.55
Mixed colors ranging from violet to deep blue.		

LATHYRUS LATIFOLIUS (HARDY PERENNIAL SWEET PEA)

A climbing form of Sweet Pea which should be more generally planted in this country. Will quickly cover a trellis, fence or arbor. Bloom continuously from spring until fall. Colorful sweet pea blossoms are fragrant and make dainty cut flowers.

PINK, RED, (YOUR CHOICE)90	.55
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Remember We Guarantee Satisfaction.

LAVENDULA (LAVENDER)

VERA	1.25	.75
The real Sweet Lavender used and grown in our grand-mothers' day. Grows 18 inches high and bears exquisitely fragrant lavender flowers.		
MUNSTEAD STRAIN	1.25	.75
A dwarf variety which grows in compact form. Same delightful fragrance and blooms as Vera.		

LIATRIS (BLAZING STAR OR GAYFEATHER)

One of the taller growing perennials and very useful for perennial bed background. Does well in any type of soil and under adverse moisture conditions.

SCARIOSA, WHITE .....	.90	.55
Same general description as above except bloom spikes are pure white. Very showy.		

LILIUM (HARDY LILY)

TENUIFOLIUM	1.25	.75
Bright coral red blooms with oddly recurving petals. Rather dwarf in growth which makes them ideal for bedding. Excellent for bright color in the garden.		

BLACKBERRY LILY

BELAMCANDA CHINESIS .....	.90	.55
Lily like blooms of orange spotted with red. Easily grown.		

LILY-OF-THE-VALLEY (CONVALLARIA)

One of the most familiar and most loved of the perennials. Will grow in shade or on spots where nothing else seems to grow. Exquisite, waxen white, bell-shaped, blooms hang from 8 to 10 inch stems. Foliage is ornamental all season. Very fragrant. Strong 1 yr. pips, ready for transplanting.

6 for 55c; 12 for 90c, postpaid

LINARIA

DALMATICA .....	.90	.55
Perennial snapdragon in rich yellow.		

LOBELIA

CARDINALIS (Cardinal Flower)	1.00	.60
Many times called "Indian Fire Stick." Plant is very dwarf but each summer sends up 18 to 24 inch stems from a rounded clump of foliage, each stem topped with an 8 to 10 inch spike of brightest Cardinal Red bloom. Very good for massing. Fine for cutting. Hardy and prolific.		

LINUM (PERENNIAL HARDY FLAX)

PERENNE .....	.90	.55
Very desirable plant for the perennial border. Grows about 2½ feet high, with finely cut, ornamental foliage. From May to August you have a fresh crop of blooms for cutting each morning. Beautiful, clear, light blue color blends well with other flowers for mixed bouquets.		

LUNARIA (HONESTY OR PETER'S PENNY)

BIENNIS ALBA	90.	.55
Much grown for its silvery white seed panicles which are in demand for use in artistic floral arrangements. Very hardy and a good novelty.		

Hamburg, N. Y., April 9, 1943

Dear Sirs: Our delphinium plants arrived to-day in wonderful condition. Very much pleased with them. And thank you for sending them so promptly.—Mrs. Marvin Page.



The Home of Untransplanted Perennials

A Familiar Landmark to Travelers on U. S. 131—The Red Brick Tavern—The Old Homestead, Recommended by Duncan Hines—Famous For Its Excellent Chicken and Steak Dinners—Just North of Plainwell. About Half Way Between Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids—Visitors are Always Welcome at Any Time.

The World's Finest Delphiniums

The Famous Vetterle and Reinelt Pacific Hybrids

Richards Gardens enjoy the reputation of not only being America's Largest Growers of untransplanted Perennials, but also of producing some of the finest Pacific Hybrid Delphiniums it is possible to secure.

NAMED VARIETIES

VARIETY

	Per Doz.	Half Doz.
BLUE JAY	1.50	.85
Medium to dark blue with darker bee.		
GALAHAD SERIES	1.50	.85
Clear white flower spikes of enormous size with well spaced flowers. Good branching habit.		
GUINEVERE	1.50	.85
Light pink lavender with white bee.		
SUMMER SKIES	1.50	.85
Clear light blue with white bee.		
BLACK KNIGHT	1.50	.85
Darkest royal violet.		
ROUND TABLE	1.50	.85
Mixed shades. Finest.		

This elegant strain of Delphinium is almost beyond description. Flower spikes 3 to 5 feet long closely packed with individual flowers from 2 to 3 inches across; many are double, some semi-double, some single. The plants are resistant to mildew and stems are wiry and strong enough to resist high winds. These plants are strong well rooted plants from seed sown last May.

COLOR GROUPS

VARIETY

	Per Doz.	Half Doz.
LIGHT BLUE	1.25	.75
DARK BLUE	1.25	.75
GIANT WHITE	1.25	.75
MIXED SHADES	1.25	.75
VIOLET SHADES	1.25	.75
LAVENDER PASTEL	1.25	.75

LYCHNIS (CAMPION OR CATCHFLY)

An artistic perennial which has been cultivated for centuries in some parts of the world. Noted for their brilliantly colored flower heads and extreme hardiness. Ideal to liven up the colors in your border during late summer and early autumn.

CHALCEDONICA (MALTESE CROSS)90 .55

Vivid scarlet flowers in flat heads come over a long blooming period. Just the plant to make bright spots of color in your garden. Grows 2½ feet high. Very hardy and easy to grow.

MATRICARIA (FEVERFEW)

This splendid plant is much used for low growing beds. Very compact in growth with strongly scented ornamental foliage. Masses of bloom in late summer and early fall. Grows 10 to 15 inches high.

BALL'S DOUBLE WHITE90 .55

This is the only fully double flowering, pure white strain. We guarantee 98% true to description and highly recommend this variety.

MYOSOTIS (FORGET-ME-NOT)

Most people are familiar with these dainty flowering Forget-Me-Nots which bring so much beauty and charm to the spring landscape. Delightful for the rockery, for walk edging or around the pool.

ALPESTRIS90 .55

Grows only 12 inches tall and universally loved for its tiny clear blue flowers in early spring.

NEW HYBRID ORIENTAL POPPIES

You'll be really surprised and delighted with this glorious color mixture in Oriental Poppies. This is a new Hybrid strain and colors range through the pinks, salmon, orange and red shades. For brilliant and showy color in the border or for bright spots of color among shrubs these free-flowering plants are unsurpassed. We offer strong, field grown 1 yr., plants in mixed shades only.

6 for 60c; 12 for \$1.00, postpaid.

PHLOX SUBLATA

(DWARF CREEPING PHLOX)

ALBA

Pure white.

LILACINA

Pale lilac lavender.

ATRO-PURPUREA

Dark purple.

Your choice, 25c ea; 5 for \$1.00 postpaid

PHYSALIS (GIANT CHINESE LANTERN)

Loved for its brilliant orange-red lantern-like pods which are used for gay winter bouquets. One of the easiest perennials to grow. Do well in any type soil and thrive in dry locations.

FRANCHETTI GIGANTEA90 .55

Real giant sized lanterns of flashing color are produced on sturdy plants, as many as thirty to a plant. When cut and dried they last indefinitely.

PLATYCODON (BALLOON FLOWER)

EARLY GIANT BLUE90 .55

Large flowering and an extra rich blue in color. One of the most showy and unique of garden flowers. Odd balloon-like buds which open into bell shaped blooms. Very hardy and will grow under adverse conditions. Grows 2 feet high.

POLEMONIUM (JACOB'S LADDER)

COERULEUM GRANDIFLORA BLUE 90. .55

Very showy and free flowering, bearing masses of large deep blue flowers through May and June. Grows 2 feet high and noted for hardiness.

PYRETHRUM (PAINTED DAISIES)

No other perennial flower seems to have the general usefulness, beauty, color, hardiness and easy culture that belongs to these gorgeous flowers. Foliage is fernlike and ornamental. Stems are strong and erect. Plants transplant easily and each one produces a liberal number of blooms during the season.

ROBINSON'S HYBRIDS, RED AND SCARLET, 1.00 .60

A really great new strain. We think so much of it that we have discontinued growing any of the others. Plants are exceptionally strong growers, produce long stems and the flowers are larger than were the older variety. We cannot adequately describe the superb colorings which appear in this magnificent strain. They run the range from deepest red to brightest scarlet. For color in beds, borders or massing we can say they stand supreme. Use them in bright pottery vases and you'll thrill at the colorfulness of your floral arrangements.

ROBINSON'S HYBRIDS, PINK AND ROSE..... 1.00 .60

Same general description as above except that colorings cover the range from pastel pink to deepest pink and roses. You'll love them.

ROBINSON'S MIXED 1.00 .60

Finest strain of painted daisies, in mixed colors.



Another View of Our Giant Pacific Hybrid Delphinium Plantings

RUDBECKIA (CONE FLOWER)

For tall backgrounds in the hardy perennial border these plants are indispensable. Thrive even in poor soil and produce a wealth of colorful blooms through most of the summer. Excellent for cutting.

HIRTA AUTUMN TINTS90 .55

A multitude of new Autumn shades. A profuse flowering variety which is very hardy. Stems 3 feet long topped with large star-shaped blooms which are fine in mixed bouquets.

PURPUREA90 .55

The best known Rudbeckia. Rosy reddish-purple petals with a high cone-shaped center of dark brown. 3 to 4 ft. stems are rugged and withstand high winds. Blooms from July until frost.

SALVIA (MEADOW SAGE)

AZUREA GRANDIFLORA90 .55

A species from the Rocky Mountains. Stems are 3 to 4 feet high and willowy. During the early Autumn pale blue flowers are produced in almost unbelievable profusion. Ideal for color in the perennial border. Keep well when cut.

SAPONARIA (SOAPWOFT)

OCYMOIDES SPLENDENS90 .55

Trailing vine-like plant which is a necessity in every rockery. From May until July plants are a mass of rosy pink small blossoms.

SCABIOSA (PINCUSHION FLOWER)

Strong and vigorous growing plants with an unusually free blooming habit. Handsome as border plants and especially fine as cut flowers.

ISAAC HOUSE HYBRIDS 1.00 .60

Extra large flowering strain noted for the variations of coloring in its blooms. All shades from light blue and lavender to deep blue appear throughout the blooming season.

SHASTA DAISY (MOONPENNY)

One of the most widely known and used of all the hardy perennials. Constant improvements and the introduction of new strains have made them one of the most beautiful and sure-to-grow plants that you can have in your garden. Always showy in mass plantings and equally desirable as cut flowers.

ALASKA90 .55

The best known variety. Improvements in the strain now result in longer, stronger stems and larger flowers. They are exceptionally free flowering, producing blooms of large size with large golden centers, all through the summer and fall. Grows about 2½ feet tall. Vigorous and hardy.

DIENER'S NEW HYBRID DOUBLE FRINGED WHITE DAISY

If you really want something exceptionally fine in white daisies this new development will be the answer. Medium tall growing, with strong stems, and immense white blooms, most of which are double or semi-double. Some have broad petals and on others the petals are narrowly shredded. A further note of beauty and oddity is added by the attractively fringed edges.

Don't fail to include a few of these in your plant order. They will excite more admiration and comment than any plant in your garden.

6 for 65c; 12 for only \$1.10 postpaid.

KING EDWARD VI'90 .55

Flowers of immense size on long graceful stems make this one of the best cutting varieties. Blooms continuously from July to September and produces year after year with little attention.

WHITE GODDESS90 .55

A splendid variety for rock garden or border. An extra free blooming strain with large flowers on 18 inch stems. Always retains its semi-dwarf habit. Hardy and easy to grow.

SIDALCEA (GREEK MALLOW)

ROSE QUEEN90 .55

Bright rose blooms on 2 to 3 ft. stems in June and July.

Yonkers, N. Y., May 29, 1943

Dear Sirs: To let you know that the plants you send me are growing as if they never were moved. Some already have flower buds. They could not help but grow they had such wonderful roots. Thanking you for sending such fine plants also the extra one's you sent.—Mrs. C. W. Sustin.

STATICE (GREAT SEA LAVENDER)

LATIFOLIA	1.00	.60
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Grows in fine lace-like form with a profusion of misty purplish-blue blossoms. May be cut and dried for winter bouquets. Unexcelled for filler in floral arrangements. Grows 18 inches high.

STOKESIA (CORNFLOWER ASTER)

Rich green ornamental foliage from which 12 inch stems arise, each topped by an exquisite, asterlike bloom with finely divided petals. Prefer a sheltered location.

CYANEA, BLUE90	.55
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An excellent cutting variety. Flowers are clear azure-blue in color and begins blooming in July.

TRITOMA (RED HOT POKER)

PFITZERI A very spectacular plant with foliage resembling that of the Yucca. 24 inch stems, each topped with a large cone-shaped spike of dazzling orange. Make a brilliant color display for the Autumn garden. Field Crown, Transplanted Plants Only 25c each; 6 for \$1.25; 12 for \$2.25, postpaid.

THALICTRUM (MEADOW RUE)

Gracefully growing plants with finely cut foliage. Noted for easy cultivation, seeming to do well in sun or shade.

ADIANTIFOLIUM90	.55
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Beautiful, finely shredded foliage which resembles the Maidenhair Fern. Tiny yellow flowers completely cover the plant in June. Grows 2 feet high. Very hardy.

TUNICA (COAT FLOWER)

SAXIFRAGA90	.55
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Ideal for rockery or dwarf border. Grows only 6 inches high and bears tiny pink flowers in great profusion during most of the summer.

VALERIANA (GARDEN HELIOTROPE)

COCCINEA RUBRA90	.55
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One of the most showy of garden flowers. Bright red flower heads are borne in abundance on 12 inch stems all through the summer months. Rich green foliage is ornamental and adds to the beauty of the plant. Unequalled for bold color masses in the border and for flashy bouquets.

VERONICA (SPEEDWELL)

An interesting and valuable family of plants because of their ornamental foliage and their long flower spikes, which resemble graceful spires. Thrive in rich soil in full sun.

LONGIFOLIA90	.55
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Reaches height of about 30 inches and is a beautiful sight in July and August with its long spire-like spikes of deep blue.

PECTINATA —An odd variety which has gray foliage and creeping habit of growth. Deep rose colored blooms appear in profusion during May. Very showy when in bloom and also as a foliage plant after blooming season.		
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Field Crown, Transplanted, Plants, 30c Ea; 4 for \$1.00, Postpaid.

Indianapolis, Indiana

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Gentlemen: We have received the Pacific Hybrids Delphiniums which you shipped us.

They were in excellent condition and of very fine quality. Thank you for your prompt attention to our order.—H. T. Smolenski.

ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID PRICES

VIOLAS (HARDY TUFTED PANSIES)

One of the most popular edging and bedding flowers. In bloom nearly eight months of the year! Loved for their dwarf size, their colorfulness and their free-blooming habit.

APRICOT	1.00	.60
Large blooms of apricot yellow make a bright color display all summer long.		
ARKWRIGHT RUBY .....	.90	.55
Very free flowering, rich ruby-red color, with satiny sheen. Fragrant and delightful when cut.		
BLACK IMP .....	.90	.55
Glossy black with bright yellow eye. Showy.		
BLUE ELF	1.00	.60
Upper petals deep-violet blue. Lower petals light violet blue. Golden eye.		
CHANTREYLAND	1.00	.60
Masses of purest apricot blooms all summer.		
JERSEY GEM .....	.90	.55
Blooms from April until snow falls. Rich, shimmering violet-blue color the most exquisite fragrance and extreme hardiness make this one of the finest Violas.		
WALLER FRANKLIN MIXTURE .....	.90	.55
Mixture of gay blues and yellows, especially for bedding or colorful edgings. Abundant bloomers.		

YUCCA (ADAM'S NEEDLE)

FILAMENTOSA .....	.90	.55
Long, bayonet-like leaves are rich green and grow into large clumps. Strong erect stems reach a height of 6 feet and are topped with immense loosely drooping spikes of bell shaped blooms. Striking for use as specimen plants.		

SPECIAL! FREE PLANT OFFER

We will send you FREE two dozen, your selection of any of the plants described in this catalog, retailing at not more than 90c per dozen, with every order of ten dozen or more selected from this list.

REMEMBER ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID PRICES

Kingfisher, Oklahoma,

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Dear Sirs: Rec'd my order of perennials in fine condition and must say I was more than pleased, as they were the finest plants for the price I have ever seen, and so many extra plants. I was expecting plants about 1½ or 2 inches long and when I got them they looked like small trees. I have ordered plants from many places but yours are the finest I have ever rec'd. Can you fill orders like these any time of the year? And do you handle bulbs or any annuals of any kind? And thanks again for such fine plants.—Hattie Wakeman, Rennselaer, N. Y.

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

I got so tired of people coming in our yard asking "What are those lovely flowers?" that I stuck a sign up—"These are Pacific Hybrid Delphiniums, V. and R., get seedlings from Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich. My only squawk is I have only one "Galahad" out of the six I sent for that is a beauty this year!—H. C. Featherstone.

North Dakota.

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

This is to notify you that all plants in my order of last spring arrived in good condition. The count was strong and with a favorable season they show up well in my garden.

I appreciate the care that was given to the order.—Elmer C. Darling.

RICHARDS GARDENS
PANSY PLANTS
GIANT SWISS VARIETIES

These are the giant flowering sorts with size and color of almost unbelievable beauty. Strong growers and prolific bloomers. Foliage thick and luxuriant.

It pays to buy the best when getting Pansy Plants. You will love these Giant Swiss varieties.

RASPBERRY ROSE

Color of a ripe raspberry with some petals of a lighter shade. Darker center.

SUPER SWISS GIANT MIXED

A veritable rainbow of color. Well balanced shades are ideal for bedding or gay borders.

SUPER SWISS MAPLE LEAF, GIANT MIXED

Assorted shades of color. Foliage attractively formed. Giant size blooms.

SUPER SWISS BLUE (ULLSWATER)

Rich satiny ultramarine blue. Giant blooms in profusion until late fall.

SUPER SWISS CORONATION GOLD

Largest blooms of clear gold with lower petals flushed rich golden orange. A bed of these makes a thrilling spectacle of beauty.

SUPER SWISS PURE WHITE

Large, beautifully shaped bloom of purest white. Ideal for low bouquets or blending with contrasting shades.

SUPER SWISS ALPENGLOW

Richest wine-red coloring. Large blooms in abundance. Ideal for bedding or borders.

SUPER SWISS DWARF MIXTURE

Lively color mixture in extremely dwarf form. They are just the thing for edging along a walk or bed. Large flowers borne continuously give lots of color all through the summer and fall.

YOUR CHOICE OF ABOVE VARIETIES:

75c per dozen; 2 dozen \$1.25 Postpaid

Detroit, Mich.

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Gentlemen: I received my first order from you today and was much surprised and pleased. They were the finest Phlox plants I ever received and were well packed and looked as though they had just been dug. Thank you.—Mrs. Chas. W. Burton.

Fergus Falls, Minn.

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Dear Sir: Last fall I bought twenty-four pyrethrum from an add in the paper.

They are magnificent this spring. The color range is unusual; that is, so many different shades of red and pink and such long stems. Some have a thirty-inch stem.

So often when one buys a collection the colors are all the same. I am very pleased with them and will be on the look-out for your advertisement.—Hope L. Smith.

HEAVY-ROOTED FIELD GROWN **HARDY PHLOX**

**BEST OF THE OLD FAVORITES,
AND COLORFUL
NEW INTRODUCTIONS
WILL BLOOM NEXT SUMMER**

No flower will lend more color and beauty to your garden than a mass planting of Hardy Phlox. They thrive under average conditions bloom freely over a long period of time and are equally satisfactory when used in beds or borders.

We are growers of Phlox and have an unusually fine assortment of field grown plants. These are one year plants, the best size for transplanting. All are well rooted and have bloomed in our fields, so we know they are true to name. Phlox will start blooming early in July and continue all through August into September. Remember all of our plants are super packed, sent prepaid and guaranteed to reach you in good condition.

VARIETY

AETNA

Excellent new variety which is highly resistant to rust. Tall strong grower and of superb deep scarlet color.

AFRICA

Lustrous deep carmine red with darker eye.

ANNIE LAURIE

One of the best new salmon-reds. Sturdy grower.

BARON von DEEDUM

Deep reddish-pink with glowing red eye.



Part of our Hardy Phlox Plantings.

BARON von HECHERON

Rich Salmon Red with attractive light eye.

BORDER QUEEN

Dwarf variety good for foreground plantings.

Massive well formed heads. Deep watermelon pink.

CAROLINE VANDENBURG

The nearest to blue color to be found among the Phlox.

Large flowering type providing a distinct contrast in color values.

CHEVALIER

One of the best new Phlox. Flashy red.

DAILY SKETCH

One of the best introductions of recent years. Immense flowers of light salmon pink with carmine eye. One of the tallest growing Phlox.

YOUR CHOICE OF ABOVE VARIETIES

**EACH LABELLED, WELL PACKED, AND
GUARANTEED TO ARRIVE IN GOOD CONDITION.**

25c each; or 12 for \$2.50 postpaid

6 PHLOX ALL LABELED OUR SELECTION \$1.00

ALL PRICES ARE PREPAID

MICHIGAN CUSTOMERS PLEASE ADD 3% SALES TAX

HARDY PHLOX (CONTINUED)

E. I. FARRINGTON

A Phlox of distinctive beauty. Flower trusses are extremely large and color is a delightful salmon shade with slightly darker eye.

ENCHANTRESS

Large deep pink.

ETHEL PRITCHARD

Soft Lavender which blends well with other colors.

GEORGE STIPP

A strong grower with excellent foliage. A truly outstanding Phlox of glowing salmon-coral.

LEO SCHLACETER

One of the brightest and flashiest of all red Phlox. Sturdy grower and very free bloomer.

LILLIAN

One of the most distinctive new Phlox ever introduced. Unusually large trusses of charming soft pink.

MAID MARION

Shining pink-lavender with silvery eye. Beautiful for pastel shading in beds or for cutting.

MORGENROOD

The glorious rosy red of sunrise. Very striking for colorful beds. Excellent as cut flowers.

MRS. JENKINS

Beautiful clear pearly white.

NANA COREULA

Deep lavender. Good grower. Dwarf.

PAINTED LADY

Much loved for its shimmering silvery-pink color and deep red eye. Tall vigorous grower.

RHEINLANDER

An old favorite. Tall growing, salmon pink. Red eye.

ROSEA SUPERBA

Light pink with red eye. Large florets.

ROSENBURG

Rich French purple. Prolific grower.

ROYAL PURPLE

Large flower heads of rich satiny purple on strong stems. Individual florets are large with uniformly good color. Excellent dark green foliage.

SALMON GLOW

Teamed with Daily Sketch this variety has swept to a high place in the phlox world. Its robust growth and blooms of deep salmon recommend it to all.

VON LASSBURG

One of the most colorful and sturdy growing white phlox. Medium height. Good bedder.

VON HOCHBERG

Another one of the older varieties, but it has never been surpassed for deep blood-red color and assured prolific blooming quality. Wonderful for bedding or for massed color spots.

WM. KESSELRING

One of the better new phlox. Rosy purple with distinctive eye.

YOUR CHOICE OF THE ABOVE VARIETIES

**EACH LABELLED, WELL PACKED, AND
GUARANTEED TO ARRIVE IN GOOD CONDITION.**

25c each; or 12 for \$2.50 postpaid

6 PHLOX ALL LABELED OUR SELECTION \$1.00

MICHIGAN CUSTOMERS PLEASE ADD 3% SALES TAX

SPECIAL! FOUR OF THE NEWEST PHLOX INTRODUCTIONS!

We offer our customers four of the very newest introductions in Hardy Phlox. We have seen these beautiful creations in bloom and we cannot recommend them too highly. All are extremely vigorous growers with good strong stems and are resistant to rust. Flower heads are immense in size with some really surprising individual florets. Try these newest Phlox and you'll be delighted when they bloom next summer. Most growers would ask at least 50c each for these but note Richards' money-saving price.

VARIETY

BLUE BOY—Near blue flowers.

EVA FORESTER—Rich salmon pink with white eye.

HARVEST FIRE—A Brilliant salmon orange.

JULY LIGHTS—A Brilliant carmine red with blood red eye.

45c Ea.; 10 For \$4.00, Postpaid

Special! Baby Phlox

These are well established crown or root cuttings which will grow in your gardens and produce some blooms this year. Make Your Garden Dollars Buy more by ordering some of these fine Baby Phlox. Due to the fact that they are grown in cold frames outdoors they will not be available until May 15th. We cannot accept orders for them after June 15th so hurry in your order and plants will be sent to you parcel post prepaid as soon as they are ready to transplant.

- AETNA**—Tall strong grower and of superb deep scarlet color.
AFRICA—Lustrous deep carmine red with darker eye.
ANNIE LAURIE—One of the best new salmon-reds.
B. COMPTE—Rich glossy French purple. Prolific bloomer.
BARON von DEEDUM—Deep reddish-pink with glowing red eye.
BARON von HECHERON—Salmon Red with attractive light eye.
***BLUE BOY**—Rich purple-blue.
BLUSHING BRIDE—Deep rosy-pink with red eye.
BORDER QUEEN—Massive well formed heads. Deep watermelon pink.
CAROLINE VANDENBURG—Nearest to blue color to be found in Phlox.
CHEVALIER—One of the best new Phlox. Flasy red.
COUNT ZEPPLIN—Large white blooms with vivid bright eye.
DAILY SKETCH—Large floweers of light salmon pink with carmine eye.
E. I. FARRINGTON—Color a delightful salmon shade wth darker eye.
ENCHANTRESS—Large deep pink.
EHTEL PRITCHARD—Soft lavender which blends well with other colors.
***EVA FORESTER**—Giant blooms of salmon rose.
***FLASH**—Rich dark red with orange-scarlet center.Tall.
***FRAU ANTON VON MATNER**—A brilliant cherry red.
GEORGE STIPP—A truly outstanding Phlox of glowing salmon-coral
***HARVEST FIRE**—A brilliant salmon orange.
HAUPTMANN KOEHL—Deep rosy-red-unfading.
***JULY LIGHTS**—A brilliant carmine red with blood red eye.
LEO SCHLAGETER—One of the brightest and flashiest of all red Phlox.
LILLIAN—Unusually large trusses of charming soft pink.
MAID MARION—Shining pink-lavender with silvery eye.
***MOONLIGHT DREAM**—Semi-dwarf white.
MORGENROOD—The glorious rosy red of sunrise.
MRS. JENKINS—Beautiful clear pearly white.
MRS. SCHOLTEN—Rich bright coral. Vigorous grower.
NANA COREULA—Deep lavender. Good grower.
PAINTED LADY—Loved for its silvery-pink color and deep eye.
PRIME MINISTER—Pinkish white, brilliant red center.
RHEINLANDER—Tall grawing, salmon pink. Red eye.
ROSEA SUPERBA—Light pink with red eye. Large florets.
ROSENBURG—Rich French purple. Prolific grower.
ROYAL PURPLE—Large flower heads of satiny purple on long stems.
SALMON GLOW—Robust growth and blooms of deep salmon.
***STARLIGHT**—Orchid with white eye.
***TIGRESS**—Brilliant new coral-salmon shade with golden sheen.
VON HOCHBERG—Deep blood-red color and assured blooming quality
VON LASSBURG—One of the most colorful, sturdy growing white phlox.
WM. KESSELRING—Rosy purple with distinctive eye.

*Outstanding New Varieties

YOUR CHOICE OF ABOVE VARIETIES

6 of one kind 65c; postpaid

12 of one kind \$1.10; postpaid

12 Mixed, Unlabelled, Our Choice, \$1.00

Garden Fruits

RICHARDS GARDENS

Strawberry Plants

To help you make your gardens practical and fruitful as well as beautiful, we are offering Strawberry Plants for Spring planting only. We offer three of the most satisfactory and most popular varieties.

✓ PREMIER

A money-making, frost proof strawberry; hardy, productive, very beautiful and attractive. Succeeds everywhere never fail to produce a big crop every year. There is a greater demand for Premier plants for commercial planting than for any other early variety. An excellent shipper and canner. Sells for fancy prices on the market.

25 for 60c; 100 for \$1.50 postpaid

✓ SENATOR DUNLAP

Perhaps no other strawberry is so favorably known throught the country generally as the old reliable Senator Dunlap. It enjoys the distinction of producing full crops in a wider range of soil and climate than almost any other variety.- Fine for both home and commercial uses.

25 for 60c; 100 for \$1.50 postpaid

✓ "GEM"

THE MODERN EVERBEARER

**The Last Degree in Strawberry Perfection for
Size, Color, Flavor and Productivity.**

A mouthful of melting, flavorful Strawberry deliciousness. The New Gem holds those qualities from the first spring ripening until cold weather, never getting that "grassy" flavor common to other varieties. So firm that it will stand an unusual amount of handling and hauling. So firm that it willstand an unusual amount of handling and hauling. Very hardy, resistant to drought and leaf-blight. Good plant makers on any soil. Produces large crop the first season.

25 for 75c; 100 for \$2.00 postpaid

Asparagus

"MARY WASHINGTON"

The first vegetable to come up in the spring garden. The Mary Washington variety stands supreme for its growing habits and delightful flavor. 100 roots will supply the average family and will last for years. Set 10 inches apart in rows. Spread the roots out in the bottom of the holes and tamp soil firmly. Plant so that there is about 2 inches of soil over the crowns of the plants.

**25 roots for \$1.00 postpaid
100 roots for \$3.50 postpaid**

"PARADISE"

A new asparagus of great promise. Strong, quick, grower and may be cut a year sooner than Mary Washnigton. Excellent flavor and flesh is exceedingly tender.

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TAKE CARE OF YOUR PLANTS IMMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL



For shipping, our plants are packed in peat with Whale-hide water proof paper. When you unpack them, if you are not ready to plant them in their permanent places, and wish to hold them for two or three days, it is a good idea to pour a small quantity of water down through the top of the package so that this peat can be moistened. After this treatment, your plants should keep fresh for several days. If however, they are not to be planted within two or three days, it is best to take them out of the package and heel them in until such time as you are ready to plant them where they are to grow. These plants are large enough so that it is not necessary to put them in cold frames or in pots until they are ready to be planted in their permanent places.

HOW TO GROW BEAUTIFUL DELPHINIUMS SUCCESSFULLY

Delphinium are easy to grow. They should have a good rich soil as they are known as gross feeders. Cow manure is the best. If this is not obtainable, get a small quantity of lime to offset the acidity of the peat, as they like an alkaline soil. As a commercial fertilizer, we recommend Vigoro, or a similar brand, to be fed in small quantity every two weeks. This should be worked into the soil and well watered.

Delphinium is sometimes subject to the fungus diseases. However, it is not difficult to eliminate these diseases if taken in time. When the foliage starts, dust or spray with Bordeaux mixture. This should be done at frequent intervals to take care of the new growth of the foliage.

In the event that Delphinium have been grown on the same soil in years previous, or you have experienced trouble with these fungus diseases, it is well to treat the soil with a solution of formaldehyde. The directions for using this disinfectant are usually found on the wrapper. Also, be sure that all old foliage has been carefully cleaned from the bed and burned.

In planting Delphinium, the soil should be opened with a trowel, the roots carefully spread out and soil well firmed around them. It is a very good idea to put a handful of peat in the opening right around the roots. Also, be careful not to cover the crown with more than one-half inch of soil. After the plant has come in full bloom, it may be cut off close to the ground, then new shoots will start and you will have a very nice second crop in a short time.

Burley, Idaho,

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Dear Sirs: My shipment of plants arrived in fine shape and were put in their permanent homes yesterday. You folks certainly send out splendid seedlings and you are most liberal in your count, for which I am duly grateful. This fall I shall be in the market for the following peonies, and if you stock them I would appreciate a copy of your price list: E. B. Browning, Francis Willard, Mrs. Edward France, Mary Woodbury, Shaylor, Milton Hill, Raoul Dessert Rosa Bonheur, and Ball O' Cotton.—Haslett B. Leigh.

Saginaw, Mich.

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Gentlemen: The perennial seedlings I ordered some time ago I received last Monday, and must say they are the best plants I have ever seen. I have them all planted and they sure look swell. I know every plant should grow and I will have many flowers this summer. Many thanks to you for your very fine plants.—Fred W. Miller.

Chicago, Illinois

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Gentlemen: The remainder of my order (Baby Phlox) came today. Just want to tell you that we were delighted with all the plants and feel we were well taken care of, both as to quality and quantity. Everything growing fine.—Mrs. John Bingham.

Pine Bluff, Ark.

Richards Gardens, Plainwell, Mich.

Dear Sirs: Received my order of seedlings from your Gardens about a week ago, and must say I was more than pleased. It is the first time I have ordered from you, and will say, from now on all my plants will come from your gardens. My plants are growing and so healthy.—Mrs. Lillian V. Marino.

PLANNING YOUR PERENNIAL GARDEN



The number of perennials which may be grown in your garden is limitless, so far as variety is concerned. How many you grow and what varieties you grow will depend entirely upon your interest in perennials and your likes and dislikes for coloring, etc.

The present trend in perennial growing is to grow a number of different sorts in informal beds or along the shrub border and include only a few which are classed as rare plants. Perennials, or plants which live for more than one year, are very essential on the grounds of anyone who likes color all through the different seasons. They may be planted in beds, in wide borders, in front of shrubs, around a pool, and the lower growing or dwarf sorts are widely used for rock garden planting. They may be planted in rows in a small garden for cutting purposes. They may be used singly but it is recommended that they be planted in clumps or groups of from three to twelve plants of a kind, as a mass of color is much more effective.

Most perennials need a sunny location although some varieties will grow in semi-shade. Perennials should be kept well away from the roots of trees as they rob them of food and moisture. Be sure that the bed or ground that you are going to plant perennials in is well drained, as perennials will not stand a lot of water remaining upon the surface of the ground for long periods of time. The soil should be made loose to a depth of $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 feet, with a plentiful supply of fertilizer thoroughly mixed into the ground when it is spaded up. If the soil is clay that becomes extremely hard during the summer season it would be well to throw out the top six or eight inches of soil and mix with this a liberal amount of peat moss or other commercial humus before putting it back into the bed and proceeding with the planting. Perennials like a porous soil in which they can throw out their roots. The soil in which perennials are planted should be kept rich at all times. Many of the plants are shallow rooted and are not able to send out their roots in search of new food supply.

Perennials may be planted in the fall as well as in the spring with certain exceptions. Iris should be planted any time during early spring or fall. Peonies are best planted in September or April. Oriental Poppies are dormant in late August and should be transplanted at that time. Otherwise perennials can be planted as other nursery stock, either spring or fall. When the plants are received from the nursery, unpack and plant them at once if possible. Those which cannot be planted at once should be heeled in moist soil and kept well watered, both roots and tops.

In planting a perennial planting, lay out the space you have available for them on piece of paper and spot in the taller growing sorts for background. Then select the plants for the border and jot them on your layout. Fill in with the medium tall growing sorts in the center of the bed. Select and plant for color display so that you do not have two kinds of perennials with the same color of blossoms beside each other. Color variation in a perennial bed is essential.

Many types of perennials will do better if frequently transplanted, that is, about every third year. This is especially true of the Coreopsis, Gaillardias, Shasta Daisies and other varieties which have dense foliage just above the ground. The plants should be removed from the bed and torn into several divisions, and these divisions replanted, the same as new plants. Iris also does better if transplanted occasionally.

There are only a few simple rules necessary to the successful growing of perennials and may be summed up as follows:

Good, well drained, rich soil in a sunny location.

Plant with crown or eye of plant just barely below ground level.

Plenty of cultivation of beds to keep the soil loose and mellow.

Keep the beds thoroughly soaked during dry weather.

Frequent fertilization to produce best growth and bloom.

Keep blooms cut off as they begin to fade and the blooming season of all sorts of perennials will be greatly lengthened.

A few wood ashes worked into the soil around Delphiniums is advisable for best growth and bloom.

In climatic and soil conditions where the ground heaves with winter freezing and thawing the beds should be thoroughly mulched in late fall.

If these simple rules are followed and proper care is exercised in selecting the varieties for your plantings, there is no reason why the average gardener should not be a successful grower of perennials and enjoy their beauty all through the season.



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